

RATE BILL JAMMED THROUGH.

IT PASSES THE HOUSE BY A VOTE OF 326 TO 17.

Four Hours of Debate Preceded the Voting, and the Democratic Leader Says That He Will Not Withdraw His Opposition to the Measure.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The Townsend bill, the so-called Administration measure, investing the Interstate Commerce Commission with the power to fix railway rates, passed through the House of Representatives today with a vote of 326 to 17. The bill was introduced by Mr. Townsend, Republican of New York, and was passed by a vote of 326 to 17.

Predictions had been freely made that the Townsend bill would be passed unanimously. Mr. Grosvenor, Republican of New York, said after their own vote had been taken that the bill would be passed. Mr. Grosvenor said "Aye" when the Townsend measure was placed on its passage. But the prediction that the important legislation would be carried unanimously did not come true. The bill was passed by a vote of 326 to 17.

Republicans—Messrs. Adams, Casper, Huff, Silbey and Porter of Pennsylvania; Dwight, Southwick and Vreeland of New York; Gardner of New Jersey; Hill of Connecticut; and McCall of Massachusetts.

Democrats—Messrs. Goulden, Harrison, Eiler and Souder of New York; Shule of Pennsylvania; and McDermott of New Jersey.

There were five Democrats, too, who refused to be bound by the dictates of their party caucus to vote for the Davey rate bill. When it was moved that the Davey bill be substituted for the Townsend bill, the Republicans voted solidly against it, and these Democrats voted with them.

With the action of the House to-day the effort to place a rate regulation law on the statute books virtually came to an end. There is no prospect that the Townsend bill or any similar measure will be passed by the Senate. Everything indicates that the most that can be done will be the adoption of a resolution by the Senate, or perhaps by both houses, providing that a committee shall sit during the recess to make inquiry into the rate question and report its conclusions when the Fifty-ninth Congress assembles, either at an extra session in October or the regular session, which will begin in December.

The last day's debate on the bill began at 11 o'clock in the presence of a score and a half of members on the floor, and possibly twice that number of visitors in the galleries.

Mr. Pierce (Dem., Tenn.) was the first speaker, announcing his purpose to vote for the measure because it carried out the policy of the Democratic party as enunciated in the platforms of at least three national conventions. The President, he said, was right in his position, and as long as he advocated Democratic doctrine it was the duty of Democrats to do all in their power to aid and sustain him.

For the Republicans Mr. Crumpacker (Rep., Ind.) was the first speaker. He announced that the majority bill would receive his ungrudging support. Although it did not contain everything that he might wish, there was nothing that he would take out of it, he said.

The debate on the part of the minority was closed by Mr. Williams, the Democratic leader. He reviewed President Roosevelt's recent declarations regarding matters of public policy to sustain the claim that he had assumed and advocated Democratic doctrine. This was true, he said, regarding the tariff and the dangers of government by injunction. As to the latter, however, in connection with strikes, Mr. Williams contended that the President's attitude was a trifle in advance even of Democratic proposals.

He expressed the hope that, in the progress of the President's development of Democratic policy, the time would speedily come when the Chief Executive would see the necessity of maintaining an army of 50,000 men more than there was any necessity for, saving \$20,000,000 a year that might be devoted to internal development and improvement rather than to merely wasteful expenditure.

Those who fell in behind the President in his crusade against the railroads, Williams continued, did so not because they were representatives but because they were patriots, but because they were patriots and the policy that ought to be pursued. It was the Republican boast, often repeated, that the Democrats sought to find where the Republicans camped, and then to go and camp there themselves. "There has been some basis of truth in that," said Williams, "but on this occasion the Republicans are camping on Democratic ground, and we will camp with you." [Laughter and applause.]

Mr. Hepburn (Rep., N. Y.), in the closing speech of the debate, described as "the difficulties that confronted the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in the preparation of the bill." Apparently no two members of the committee agreed as to what the bill should contain, he said, and he thought that the result of the legislation proposed would be to illustrate by the action of one of his committee colleagues, who had signed two bills, favoring two different bills, and had announced his intention on the floor to vote for a third.

Mr. Hepburn here, for the first time in his career, service in the House, he said, interpreted a matter of personal nature in the course of which he gave the history of the preparation of the proposed law, which had not before been made public.

"I want to say, Mr. Chairman, that early in this session, recognizing as I did that the President of the United States simply voiced the demand of the American people for justice, for equality, for open door of opportunity to all to engage in business, I knew that legislation of this kind must be enacted, and I knew that I must have interviews with him and members of his cabinet, I with their aid and aid of others, I now know that this bill is a compromise, and I am sure I could that which I thought would aid in preparing the bill to carry out his views."

"There are some who say this bill is an Administration bill. No bill that I know of has been or is an Administration bill. The President of the United States, recognizing the rights of his power to recognize the rights of the people, recognizing the equality and the independence and the supremacy of the three great coordinate branches of the Government, in their respective spheres, is not the man to strive to force legislative action, executive thought, into legislative action."

"I have had in the preparation of the bill that I had the honor to present, the aid of the representatives and my counsel in regard to certain matters. I have had the aid of my Attorney-General, that of other members of his political family. I made many alterations and many changes from time to time, and I am sure that I have done the best to carry out the wise suggestions of the President."

"I prepared the rough sketch of the bill, the general principle of which I met with his approval. With these aids I improved it, perfected it and got it into the shape that I preferred. It again met with his approval in its general scope and features, although some of the minor matters were not discussed. It was my pleasure and it was my happiness to have the assistance of the Attorney-General."

"That bill met with his approval. Being somewhat timid about my own knowledge with regard to the jurisdiction of courts, fearful of faulty phraseology, having had no experience in courts for twenty-four years, after it was completed and its general features were approved as being in harmony with the purposes of the Executive, I asked the Attorney-General to have that bill put in legal phraseology, with special reference to those features relating to court procedure."

"In the bill that I introduced every word of it, save two, was prepared in the office of the Attorney-General. There were two words changed, one by the mistake of the printer or of a clerk, the other by the use of the word 'circum' instead of 'circum' was used instead of 'circum'. I changed the word 'thirty' for 'sixty'."

Mr. Hepburn then told of the differences of opinion in the committee and how for the sake of getting some legislation, he had agreed upon the pending bill as a compromise measure. It was not perfect, but it could be corrected if required. He continued:

"No one in this House doubts the power of the Congress to legislate in this direction. Those who have raised the question simply of policy, of wisdom. They are fearful that it may be to legislate in the direction of certain classes of property. They are fearful that it may be a stepping stone in the direction of socialism. No one doubts the power. No one seriously doubts the necessity. We have had legislation a most valuable chapter of legislation, upon this subject; and I have the right to boast, in view of the criticisms that have been made of me, that every sentence in that volume, every shred of legislation that we have had upon this great subject, except those minor amendments in 1890, when I was not a member of the House, I have labored for and have voted for, and I hope I have had some voice in framing them. [Applause.]

Under the special rule the hour of a clock having arrived, the committee arose and Chairman Hepburn reported the bill and substituted for the bill.

The motion being upon adopting the Democratic substitute for the majority bill, it was rejected, 157 to 150.

Upon the passage of the bill the vote was: Yeas 326, nays 17. The announcement of the result was received by the crowded House with no manifestation of feeling whatever.

REDUCES CANAL COMMISSION.

Senate Committee Recommends That It Be Composed of Three Members.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals, in charge of the proposed canal legislation, has decided to recommend the reduction of the Isthmian Canal Commission to three members. It is probable that the commission will report a substitute for the Mann bill, now pending in the House, which abolishes the canal commission.

The Senate subcommittee, which is composed of Senators Kittredge, Millard and Morgan, has carefully considered the reports of the canal commission, has had the commissioners and the Secretary of War before it and has reached the conclusion that a change must be made in the interests of efficient and rapid canal construction and administration. A subcommittee has been organized under the direction of the President and Secretary of War.

Each commissioner under the Senate committee bill will be independent of the others, reporting directly to the Secretary of War. Under the present system the concurrence of four commissioners is required to perform any act, and the result has been long discussions and votes over trivial matters which one executive head would have dispatched out of hand.

Under the Spooner act the seven commissioners "shall serve until the completion of said canal, unless sooner relieved by the President."

The new law will serve to abolish the present commission, but it is pretty well understood that at least two members of the commission will be reappointed. They are Rear Admiral Walker and Carl E. Grunsky, who was appointed from the Pacific Coast.

Proposed Investigation of Government Printing.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—A concurrent resolution was offered in the Senate to-day by Mr. Platt of New York, providing an investigation of Government printing by the Senate Committee on Printing and two members of the next House of Representatives. This special joint committee is directed to investigate the number of documents printed for the use of Congress and also the number and character of documents printed and bound for executive departments, and to report remedial legislation, if any is found to be desirable. The resolution went over.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The cruisers Minneapolis, Hartford and Columbia and the gunboat Toreada have arrived at Culebra, the battleship Ohio at San Francisco, the destroyer Paul Jones at Seattle, the gunboat Bamfrat at Tompkinsville, the gunboat Vixen at Guantanamo, and the destroyer Stewart at San Juan.

The gunboat Eagle has sailed from New York for Port Royal, and the collier Panama for Panama. The collier and the collier Albatross from San Juan for Norfolk.

Lieut. Silcox Acquitted.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Second Lieut. Charles L. Silcox, Twenty-fourth Infantry, who was tried by a general court-martial at Fort Monroe on a charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, alleging that he made false statements to his superior officers, has been found not guilty and acquitted. The verdict has been approved by the Department.

Reynolds Nominated.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The President sent to the Senate to-day the nomination of James B. Reynolds of Maryland to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

The Weather.

The low pressure area which was central over Wyoming on Wednesday had moved into the Atlantic coast with its center over Lake Superior and a secondary low pressure area on the Middle Atlantic coast. This main depression has drawn warmer weather into the middle Mississippi Valley. The temperature was above freezing yesterday in all this territory except the upper Lake regions and a strip from New England through the Middle Atlantic States into Virginia.

A high pressure area appearing over Montana has started colder weather southward from that section.

In this city yesterday it was much warmer; snow fell in the early morning, changing to sleet and then to rain; wind fresh northeasterly; average humidity, 68 per cent; barometer, corrected to sea level, 30.1; at 3 P. M. 30.2.

The temperature yesterday, as recorded by the official thermometer, is shown in the annexed table:

For eastern New York, fair on the coast and rain or snow in the interior to-day; fair and colder to-morrow; fresh west to northwest winds.

For New England, snow in north and clearing in south portion to-day; fair and colder to-morrow; fresh west to southwest winds.

For eastern Pennsylvania, fair to-day, except snow and colder in north portion; fair to-day; snow to-morrow; fresh west to northwest winds.

For New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia, fair to-day and fair and colder to-morrow; light west to northwest winds.

For western New York and western Pennsylvania, snow showers and colder to-day; snow showers, except snow flurries along the Lakes; diminishing west winds.

Pneumonia and Grip Follow the Snow.



The Equitable

Life Assurance Society

Of the United States.

HENRY B. HYDE, FOUNDER.

Forty-fifth Annual Statement, for the Year Ending December 31, 1904.

ASSETS.

Bonds and Mortgages	\$81,623,709.11
Real Estate in New York, including the Equitable Building	20,906,215.78
United States, State, City and Railroad Bonds and other investments—market value over cost, \$19,221,641.00	228,339,884.00
Loans secured by Bonds and Stocks (market value, \$1,844,199.00)	10,805,000.00
Policy Loans	23,544,439.69
Real Estate outside of New York, including office buildings	15,989,431.66
Cash in Banks and Trust Companies at interest	22,651,666.82
Balance due from agents	1,514,639.90
Interest and Rents, (Due \$71,912.51, Accrued \$350,416.94)	632,508.78
Premiums due and in process of collection	5,313,556.00
Deferred Premiums	2,651,960.00
Total Assets	\$413,953,020.74

INCOME.

Premium Receipts	\$62,643,836.74
Interest, Rents, etc.	16,432,850.21
Income	\$79,076,695.95

DISBURSEMENTS.

Death Claims	\$18,049,539.35
Endowments and deferred annuities	8,425,950.14
Annuities	950,349.94
Surrender Values	2,931,505.36
Dividends to Policyholders	6,001,002.51
Paid Policyholders	\$30,389,047.30
Commissions, advertising, postage and exchange	7,900,285.73
All other disbursements	7,179,318.42
Real Estate Sinking Fund	500,000.00
Disbursements	\$51,968,651.45

We hereby certify to the correctness of the above statement.

FRANCIS W. JACKSON, Auditor.

H. R. COURSEN, Assistant Auditor.

A. W. MAINE, Associate Auditor.

LIABILITIES.

Assurance Fund (or Reserve) \$327,758,358.00	
All other Liabilities	5,420,393.53
Total Liabilities	\$333,158,751.53
Surplus	\$80,794,269.21

ASSURANCE.

OUTSTANDING POLICIES STATED AT THEIR COMMUTED VALUES	
Outstanding Assurance	\$1,495,542,892.00
New Assurance, less Assurance not taken	\$222,920,037.00

We hereby certify to the correctness of the above statement. The Reserve as per the independent valuation of the N. Y. Insurance Department, is \$326,523,126. For Superintendent's certificate see Detailed Statement.

J. G. VAN CISE, Actuary.

ROBT. HENDERSON, Assistant Actuary.

R. G. HANN, Associate Actuary.

We have examined the accounts and Assets of the Society, and certify to the correctness of the foregoing statement.

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N. B.—FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS SEE DETAILED STATEMENT.

PEACE NOW IN CZAR'S HANDS.

SAID TO BE DETERMINED TO CARRY ON THE WAR.

Government Official Declares That Acceptance of Anglo-German Offer Depends on "Personal Factor."—Peace Union's Appeal to Roosevelt.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Telegraph says that he has interviewed a member of the Government on the probability of Russia accepting the good offices of Great Britain and Germany to bring about a cessation of hostilities and received the vague reply that the matter rested with the Emperor.

The official added that he was not aware that the campaign had changed. On the contrary, he recently reasserted his resolve to carry it on without relaxation. If Great Britain and Germany appealed to his Majesty the result "would depend upon a personal and psychological factor, which could not be determined in advance."

When asked if it were true that Gen. Kuropatkin was relinquishing his command the official declined either to confirm or deny the report. He said, however, that the General's health had suffered considerably during the campaign and his nervous tension was consequently extreme.

TROOPS FIRE UPON RIOTERS.

Strikers Killed and Wounded—Serious Situation in Lodz.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LODZ, Feb. 9.—Coats' thread mills and other factories have advanced their strikers three days' wages, although the money is not legally due.

Heintzels mills refused to pay and the workmen threatened to wreck the mills. A manufacturer of the name of Stouger also refused to pay. He was seized and a revolver was held at his head until he promised to pay to-morrow.

There was a riot to-day at Pabjanice. The soldiers dispersed the rioters with a volley which killed one and wounded others.

BERLIN, Feb. 9.—It is reported that the strikers at Sosnowice, Russian Poland, seeing a factory lighted to-night, believed that men were working there. They advanced against the factory in large numbers, whereupon troops inside fired a volley at them. There were many casualties.

FATHER GAPON PUNISHED.

Priest Who Led the Strikers Deprived of His Office.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 9.—Father Gapon, the former leader of the strikers, who is now supposed to be in Paris, has been formally removed from the chaplaincy of the deportation prison, which he held, and has been inhibited from acting as a priest until the part he took in the labor movement has been defined.

PRAISE FOR PRINCE MIRSKY.

Retiring Minister of the Interior Bids Farewell to His Staff.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 9.—Prince Sviatopolk-Mirsky bade farewell to the staff of the Ministry of the Interior to-day. The proceedings were of a very cordial nature. After a religious service the officiating priest gave his blessing to the Prince, saying that all thinking Russians felt that he was the only man who was able to set free the springs of life which already, for a long time, had rushed underground. The Prince will go to his country seat at Kharkoff.

MORE RUSSIAN WORKERS OUT.

Consul-General Warns Says the Military Are Making Preparations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The strikers in St. Petersburg have again grown active, according to a despatch received from Consul-General Watts at the State Department to-day. The despatch says: "Laborers of several of the principal

GEN. TCHERTKOFF DEAD.

Had Been Succeeded as Governor of Moscow by Gen. Fiodor.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

WARSAW, Feb. 9.—Gen. Tcherkoff, lately Governor-General of Warsaw, died at 10:25 o'clock to-night. Gen. Tcherkoff had a leg amputated a few days ago, and it was announced following the operation that his recovery was impossible. He was succeeded as Governor-General by Gen. Fiodor.

Mrs. Tcherkoff was at a theatre when her husband died.

TROOPS TO AID SCHOOLGIRLS.

Seminary Director Talks on Warsaw Police When Students Revolt.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

WARSAW, Feb. 9.—An incident of the strike occurred to-day that was like a scene in comic opera. Four hundred girls attending the chief girls' school went on a strike. They presented a protest to the director, who summoned the girls who presented the protest to an interview in his study.

The girls refused, whereupon the director telephoned to the chief of police, who actually summoned the military, and the girls marched out of the school for their homes past a patrol of a hundred soldiers.

PEACE APPEAL TO ROOSEVELT.

Promises Head of Interparliamentary Union to Take Up Question With Hag.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The President this morning promised to take up with the Secretary of State the question of friendly mediation to bring about an end of the war between Russia and Japan. This is not to be taken as an indication that the United States Government will intervene, for Mr. Roosevelt has given no assurance beyond the promise to talk over the matter with Mr. Hay.

The matter was brought to the President's attention this morning by the Interparliamentary Union, through its chief executive officer, Representative Barthold of Missouri. In discussing the question after he came from the White House, Mr. Barthold said:

"It is well understood that Russia has given the impression that any offer of mediation would be regarded as unfriendly. This attitude involves a plain violation of the stipulation of The Hague Treaty, which provides that to tender good offices or offer mediation shall not be considered an unfriendly act. Russia is a party to that treaty of The Hague. The conference was called by the Czar himself."

It has been well understood for a long

Suits, Coats and Trousers for Men

At Radically Reduced Prices.

Our creed is this—A garment designed for a season's service must find service that season. Nor do we hesitate at the penalty. In a most generous fashion, the price of every suit and overcoat that is still with us has suffered a reduction.

THE OVERCOATS

In paletot, tourist, paddock and box models of fine imported and domestic fabrics which did cost \$48, \$50 and \$55 are now \$40; those that were \$40 and \$43 are now \$35; those that were \$28 and \$30 are now \$20, and the \$20 and \$22.50 coats have been reduced to \$15.

THE SUITS

Which are in Chesterfield cutaway and single and double breasted sack models, of all manner of high grade materials, have suffered even greater price reductions—those that were \$35 and \$38 are now \$25; those that were \$25, \$28 and \$30 are now \$20; and the \$18, \$20 and \$22.50 are \$13.50.

THE TROUSERS

Value \$4 & \$4.50 at \$3 Value \$5 & \$6 at \$4

They are of worsted, cassimere, cheviot, tweed or homespun in stripes, checks, mixtures and overblends together with plain black or blue. If yours is a Saks suit, we can probably provide a pair of trousers to match, since they are all fashioned of the short lengths of cloth that our workshop afforded.

50c. Half Hose for Men at 25c.

Half hose of lisle thread as fine as good service will permit, in black, brown or gray with fancy designs done in embroidery, together with plain black, gray or navy. The collection is liberally punctuated with the new Spring effects. The standard price is fifty cents—for Friday and Saturday 25c.

FOR FRIDAY & SATURDAY.

\$1.50 Shirts for Men at 85c.

Stiff and Soft Bosoms.

Big things must be conducted in a big way. Our shirt business is big. We cannot afford to hold out for the regular retail price with the small series of styles when the season is almost done. To be rid of them a clearance sale is organized; the benefit is wholly yours. Often you never know how great it really is. This is an instance. We have declared the value of the shirts offered to be \$1.50; yet the collection affords a few shirts of flannel and silk which are worth \$2.50. It is not modesty, but a good business principle, which compels us to leave the story half untold.

The models are in all manner of styles, including the coat effect, with or without cuffs attached, in sizes 13 to 18, though not in every style.

\$1.50 Shirts for Boys at 85c.

Stiff bosom Shirts of percale, in coat models, and Negligee Shirts of cheviot or madras, with cuffs attached or detached, sizes 12 to 14 inch neckband.

Saks & Company

BROADWAY, 332 TO 34TH STREET

continue to be patrolled with the greatest vigilance.

Neutral vessels are warned that the greatest caution is necessary in navigating Tsugaru Strait because the Lighthouses are no longer lighted except occasionally. Japan has acquired so much coal by her recent seizures of coal-laden vessels, and by her past purchases, that she will buy no more.

Seizure of British Ship Upheld.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

NAVASARU, Feb. 9.—The British steamship Weyfield, which was seized by a Japanese warship off the coast of Hokkaido Island on Jan. 30 while on her way to Vladivostok with a cargo of Cardiff coal, was condemned to-day by a prize court as a lawful capture.

Japan Considering New Loan.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

TOKYO, Feb. 9.—The issue of the fourth domestic loan is now being discussed. M. Takahashi, vice-president of the Bank of Japan, will sail for England by way of the United States on Feb. 17 in connection with the matter.

John J. ("Baldy") Ryan Acquitted.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9.—John J. ("Baldy") Ryan was acquitted this morning in Judge Robert Forester's court on the embezzlement and get-rich-quick charge. The judge, having sustained Ryan's demurrer to the State's case on the ground that allegations had not been proved by the State. One juror was rising when court opened, but the judge permitted the other jurors to sign a verdict of acquittal. The lawyers charged were then none pros.

MAY SUCCEED KUROPATKIN.

Grand Duke Nicholas to Go to Far East—Kaiser's Cousin With Him.</